

George Hellick Coffee Warehouse No. 3
38-40 Sitgreaves Street
Easton
Northampton County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5522

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MID-ATLANTIC REGION, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

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HISTORICAL AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

George Hellick Coffee Warehouse No. 3 HABS No. PA-5522

Location: 38-40 Sitgreaves Street, Easton, Northampton County, PA

USGS Easton Quadrangle, UTM Coordinates: 18.482120.4504420

Significance: Built as a Victorian stable or workshop, 38-40 Sitgreaves Street marks the transformation of the old residential downtown of Easton into a commercial and light industrial zone in the twentieth century.

Description: The double brick building at 38-40 Sitgreaves Street betrays at least three stages of construction. The original is the shallow 45' by 33' brick stable with wood framing best understood on the second and third floors. On the main facade, common bond walls are punctuated by two groups of three windows with 2/2 sash and Queen Anne lintels, which line up with the centered double dormers and flanking single dormers on the outer edge of the building. The gable roof is slated. The attic framing indicates that this was built as an unobstructed free space.

To the rear of the front block is a vast clear span manufacturing hall with light steel trusses spanning the nearly 60' by 80' rear building. Skylights and iron sash windows light the vast hall which had been constructed in the rear yard, filling in most of the center of the block.

After its acquisition by the George Hellick Company in 1936 the adjacent wood warehouse to the north was replaced by a brick and steel frame extension to 38-40 Sitgreaves Street. At that time the first floor was reconfigured with a large garage door and oversized fixed industrial sash and the building was linked to the rear of 215 Ferry Street (HABS No. PA-5545).

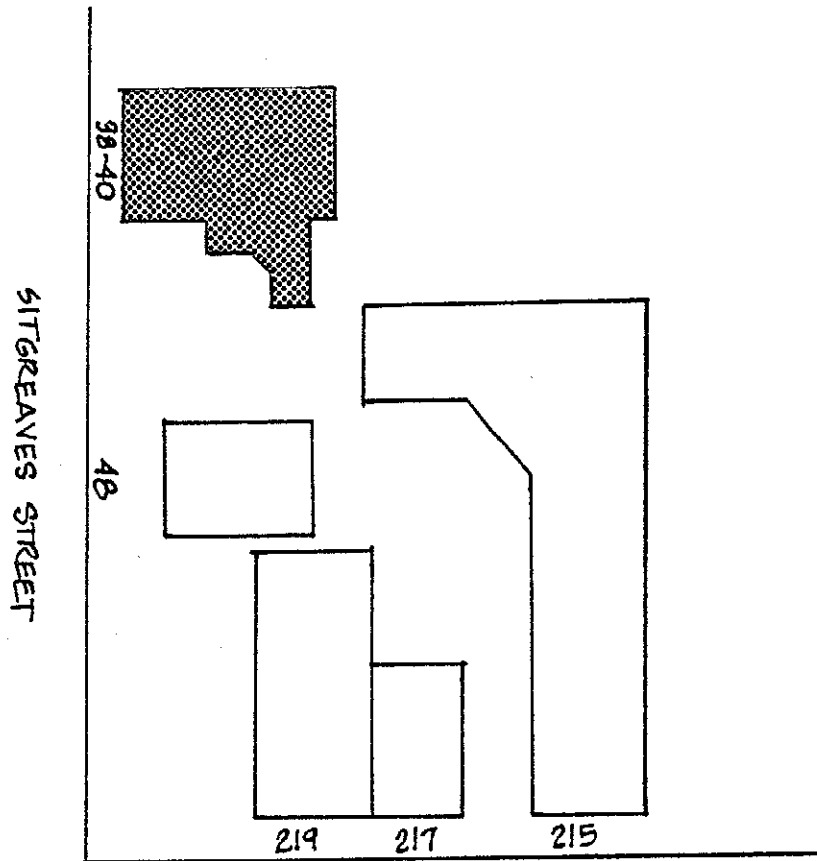
History: Though built as two symmetrical halves, the visual evidence of the construction suggests that 38-40 Sitgreaves Street was intended as a single use, perhaps as a workshop. The 1919 Sanborn's Atlas of the City of Easton, indicates that the building was then in use as a tin shop, perhaps hinting at the date that the large industrial hall was constructed. According to the 1874 Pomeroy's Atlas, the owner of the site, William Diehl, is listed as a tinsmith in the 1875 Boyd's Directory. By the 1927 Sanborn Atlas, it was listed as the George Hellick Coffee Warehouse.

The entire first floor was rebuilt after the acquisition of the adjacent 36 Sitgreaves when that building, described in the deeds as a "frame storehouse," was sold to Hellick subject to an agreement with Metropolitan Edison to construct an underground vault.

The Easton Historic District was formed in 1983; the properties were acquired by the United States Postal Service for an addition to the existing postal building.

Sources: William J. Heller, History of Northampton County, vol. III, New York: American Historical Society Publishing Co., 1920, pp. 321-2.; West's Directory of the City of Easton, Easton: 1914, p. 245. Sanborn's Atlas of the City of Easton, 1919, Sec. 11; 1927, Sec. 4; D. G. Beers Pomeroy's Atlas of Northampton County, Philadelphia, 1874, pl. 35. Boyd's Easton City Directory, Easton, 1885.

Historians: George E. Thomas, Ph.D., Emily T. C. Jernigan, Clio Group, Inc. October 12, 1990.



FERRY STREET

EASTON, PENNSYLVANIA



